

Contents of e-mail Letter to NPS

January 18, 2008

Mr. Kevin Brandt
Superintendent, C&O Canal National Historical Park
1850 Dual Highway, Suite 100
Hagerstown, Maryland 21742
NCR_Georgetownboathouse@nps.gov

Re: Scoping Comments, EIS - Georgetown University Boathouse Proposal

Dear Mr. Brandt:

In considering the environmental impacts of the proposed Georgetown University Boathouse it is imperative that you consider alternatives other than those you previously announced. The proposal has so many detrimental impacts to the public that the NPS must analyze imaginative ways to achieve your objectives—ways that will minimize public harm and maximize public benefit.

You have received an exceedingly large number of responses describing the issues raised by the proposed boathouse alternatives. I will not reiterate them here, but wish to endorse at least some of them by reference. I incorporate three such responses by attaching them to this e-mail letter. Specifically, I endorse the very thoughtful insights submitted to you by Sally Strain in behalf of Defenders of Potomac River Parkland, Amber Jones, and Pope Barrow (See the three Microsoft Word attachments).

The impacted area of the river has supremely important value to the public. The NPS, as steward of the parkland all along the shoreline above Rock Creek, must do all it can to achieve the most public benefits while considering legitimate private interests. So, I propose a generalized alternative for scoping: **Recognize the world-class recreational uses of the river. Do not violate the C&O Canal National Historical Park with any new structures. Plan for a series of boathouses as needed by unaffiliated boaters, high schools, and colleges.** There is adequate shoreline space to this end, as well as inclusion of traditional parkland amenities.

Sincerely,

David Winer
5927 Onondaga Road
Bethesda, MD 20816